

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application mailed January 26, 2004. The Drawings and Specification have been amended. No new matter has been introduced into the application. Applicant respectfully requests that the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application be withdrawn, Patent Application No. 10/687,471 be assigned a filing date of October 15, 2003, and the application be allowed to continue to substantive examination.

Objection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b)

The Office objected to the application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) because the instant application was filed without drawings. Applicant had inadvertently omitted five Drawing Sheets when filing the instant divisional patent application on October 15, 2003. The instant application was designated as a divisional application of parent Patent Application No. 09/863,928. The entire contents of the parent patent application were also expressly incorporated by reference into the instant application.

M.P.E.P. 2163.07(b) permits Applicant to replace materials identified as incorporated by reference with the actual materials without introducing new matter. Since the instant application, as originally filed, expressly incorporated by reference parent Patent Application No. 09/863,928, the five drawing sheets from the parent application may be introduced into the instant application without constituting new matter. These five drawing sheets from parent Patent Application No. 09/863,928 have been included with this Paper. Applicant respectfully requests that these five drawing sheets, which contain FIG. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, be included in the instant application.

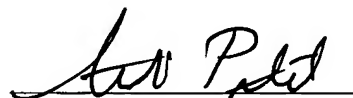
Appln No.: 10/687,471
Response Dated: March 18, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: January 26, 2004

This amendment is sufficient to overcome the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application.

Applicant respectfully requests that this amendment be accepted, the Notice of Incomplete Nonprovisional Application be withdrawn, Patent Application No. 10/687,471 be assigned a filing date of October 15, 2003, and the application be allowed to continue to substantive examination. The Office is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 18, 2004



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